Paulding County Fire & Rescue 247 Industrial Way North Dallas, Georgia 30132

770-222-1160



Paulding County Outdoor Burning Guidelines 2022 Updates

Paulding County adopted a burn ordinance on October 14, 1987. This ordinance requires all persons, businesses, and agencies to review the outdoor burning guidelines each day before setting ANY open fires within Paulding County.

You must call the Paulding County Outdoor Burn Line on the day of your burn at **770-505-BURN** (2876) seven days a week. You will hear a recorded message clearly indicating if burning is permissible. The recording is updated as fire conditions dictate.

Paulding County Fire/Rescue realizes that not everyone living and working in our County is aware of the outdoor burning ordinance. This letter is intended to provide you with the details and needed information.

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division allows open burning from October 1st through April 30th of each year as long as the following rules and regulations are met:

- You may <u>ONLY</u> burn natural products (e.g., leaves, tree limbs, etc.). All other materials are considered hazardous and illegal to burn. Burning of other materials can result in fines up-to \$10,000.00 imposed by the Environmental Protection Division of the State of Georgia.
- 2. Call the automated burn line system before you burn (770-505-2876). You must listen to the entire recording. You must call each day that you plan to burn.
- 3. Fires must be attended at all times by an adult.
- 4. The fire must be no less than the following:
 - a. 50 feet away from any structure, including barns, outbuildings, sheds, and homes.
 - b. 25 feet away from any woodlands, forestland, and/or open field that contains brush, grass, or other flammable material.
- 5. A garden hose or fire extinguisher must be readily available at the site of the fire.

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- 6. Only hand-piled natural products (i.e. leaves, tree limbs, etc.) may be burned. No household garbage or other hazardous materials (e.g., tires, plastics, etc.) may be burned.
- 7. The hand-piled material to be burned cannot exceed 8 ft. x 8 ft. x 8 ft. in size.
- 8. Machine—piled burns require notification to the Georgia Forestry Commission via the county forest ranger at (770) 443-7821.
- 9. Burning of any type of structure is prohibited.
- 10. Burning is prohibited when wind the speeds or gusts are over 10 miles per hour.
- 11. All fires must be extinguished by dark.
- 12. Campfires for recreational use or cooking are allowed. They must be contained inside a ring, pit, or rock border and must be attended at all times by an adult. Campfires can be no larger than 3'x3' in size. A garden hose or fire extinguisher must be readily available. Grass clippings and leaves cannot be burned in the campfire. Campfires must be at least 25 feet from any structures and attended at all times. Campfires should be extinguished thoroughly when no longer in use.
- 13. Bonfires are associated with groups or organizations. They can be no larger than 6'x6' in size. The fire must be <u>50</u> feet from any structure and must be attended at all times by an adult. These fires must have prior approval from the Fire Chief or his designee. If approved, bonfires are allowed between the hours of 6:00 PM and 12:00 midnight. Please call Paulding County Fire Administration Monday Friday between 8:00 AM 5:00 PM at (770) 222-1160 for advanced approval.
- 14. Agriculture, silviculture, and land clearing burns for residential or commercial development require notification to, and a permit from, the Georgia Forestry Commission via the county forest ranger.
- 15. Failure to comply with these burn guidelines may result in civil action presented in magistrate court.